

# IN THE GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

## Army Chiefs Appointed.

SECRETARY of War Weeks announced Wednesday the appointment of twelve major generals, twenty-six brigadier generals and selected two brigadiers to be promoted during the year to fill existing vacancies.

The brigadiers promoted to major generals are:

Clarance R. Edwards, James W. McAndrew, John L. Hines, Henry T. Allen, David C. Shanks, Adelbert Cronhite, William M. Wright, George W. Read, Charles H. Muir, Charles T. Menoher, William G. Haan, George Bell, Jr., Charles J. Bailey and Samuel D. Sturgis will be made general officers to fill vacancies that are to occur during the year.

Colonels promoted to brigadier generals are: Grote Hutcheson, Jesse McI. Carter, Walter H. Gordon, George B. Duncan, William Weigel, Ernest Hinds, U. G. McAlexander, Mark L. Hersey, Eli A. Helmick, Robert L. Howze, William Lassiter, William E. Smith, Fred W. Sladen, Harry H. Bandholtz, Hanson E. Ely, Dwight E. Aultman, Johnson Hagood, Dennis E. Nolan, W. D. Connor, Fox Connor, Preston Brown, Malin Craig, Henry D. Todd, Jr., A. J. Bowley, William H. Johnston, Robert Alexander.

Col. James T. Kerr was made assistant to the Adjutant General, Cols. John M. Carson and George F. Downey assistants to the Quartermaster General, Col. Harry Tylor assistant to the Chief of Engineers, Cols. William S. Pierce and George W. Burr, assistants to the Chief of Ordnance and Col. William Mitchief, assistant to the Chief of the Air Service.

At the request of Secretary of War Weeks Congress gave its consent for the sale abroad of 81,000,000 pounds of canned meats which the War Department has been unable to dispose of in this country. The meats probably will be sold on long term credits in such a way that the government will realize a profit.

The office of the director of sales, War Department, announced Wednesday that more than 13,000,000 pounds of brass shells being carried as surplus had been disposed of to a group of manufacturing concerns where they will be recast and used for other purposes.

The War Department has transferred the port of embarkation from Hoboken, N. J., to the Army Supply Base at Brooklyn, N. Y. The Army Transport Service also is transferred from Hoboken to Brooklyn. The Transportation Service of the Quartermaster General, at Hoboken, is to be transferred to Washington, D. C. The Graves Registration Service and Inventory and Appraisal Board will remain at Hoboken.

The War Department announces the establishment of laundries at all of the army cantonments now in use. The contract price for laundry for enlisted men has averaged \$2.50 per month per man. The new laundries will be operated at a cost of \$2.00 per man including cost of hospital laundry.

The sale of waste materials by the War Department from the date of the signing of the armistice to December 31, 1920, amounted to \$14,918,282.75 it was announced Wednesday. This material included unservicable clothing, equipage, scrap metals and lumber.

## Civilian Camps Planned.

Establishment of a number of citizens' military training camps this summer, with the object of training a vast civilian reserve army, was announced by the War Department early this week. The reserves are to be developed from year to year so that the country ultimately will have a sufficient defense for any emergency without resort to a compulsory draft. Gen. Pershing is to supervise the development of the volunteer training camp and citizen reserve system. The full term of military training is planned to cover three courses, freshman, junior and senior. The first is for men between the ages of 16 and 21 who have never had military training and desire practical experience. The age minimum for the second course is 19 years and for the third course 21 years. Graduates will be certified as competent to hold noncommissioned officers' rank in the reserve force. On special examination they may be commissioned.

## National Banks Added.

THREE new national banks received charters from the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency during the week. They were the Andalusia National Bank, Ala., capitalized at 200,000 the Painted Post National Bank, N. Y., with a capital of \$25,000 and the First National Bank of Hermansville, Mich., \$25,000.

Five applications to organize national banks were approved, the capitalization stipulated totalling \$250,000.

Four organization applications were received, the aggregate capital being set at \$200,000.

Two voluntary liquidations, one petition for extension of corporate existence and two applications to convert are noted in the Comptroller's statement. One request was for conversion of the Commercial Exchange Bank of New York, capital \$700,000, into the Commercial Exchange National Bank.

## Tax Evaders Must Answer.

TAX dodgers will not derive comfort from the statement last week by officials of the Bureau of Internal Revenue that a drive against persons and concerns making false or fraudulent returns is in process with attacking forces of 8,000 auditors, clerks and examiners engaged in collection and examination.

It is hoped that activities in seeking out the evaders will net the government \$500,000,000 during the year. Special examination of returns last year resulted in garnering an additional \$420,000,000 for Uncle Sam's coffers. The work was confined mostly to 1917 returns while the examination of those for 1919 and 1920 has not yet been instituted.

It is not entirely the wilful tax errant that the bureau's forces aim to bring to book. Thousands of cases exist where the returns have been erroneously made out through lack of knowledge. This is particularly the case with the highly complicated returns from great corporations.

The War Finance Corporation last week approved a loan of \$2,000,000 for financing cotton exports of 30,000 bales to England, France, Italy, Japan, Portugal and Germany, according to announcement of Director Eugene Meyer.

## Nurse Shortage.

In two years the number of hospitals operated by the United States Public Health Service has increased from 22 with a bed capacity of 1,500 to 61 with a capacity of 17,600, according to announcement last week. While the personnel has kept pace with this growth in most branches, it has fallen behind as regards nurses. All efforts of the officials to bring the force up to the desired 1,700 have so far failed, it is stated, a shortage of 300 existing.

The service has found it necessary on account of the demands on its facilities to place many patients in civilian hospitals under contract. The number was 5,000 in January, 1920, and is now 10,500.

There are pending before the Bureau of War Risk Insurance 91,477 claims of world war veterans, R. H. Hallett, acting director of the bureau declared in a statement last week. On March 24, the total number of claims filed was 594,242, whereas a board of experts had estimated before the bulk was recorded that there would be not more than 250,000. During February of this year more claims were filed than the total existing at the height of demobilization.

The bureau has adopted a most liberal policy as concerns cases filed in which there is no record of treatment for disease or disability while in the service, declared Hallett's report. This difficult problem arises in connection with most of the claims at present placed before the bureau, it is further stated. Every effort is being made to establish by affidavits or other acceptable evidence the verity of such claims.

## Highway Officials Sanguine.

A new era in highway construction is forecast by representatives of the American Association of State Highway officials who on Thursday conferred with President Harding concerning legislation to broaden the program of road building to which the government is made party by the Federal road aid act.

Bills to bring about betterment in the highway situation, not now so desirable a one as before the world war and to provide further Federal funds to match those authorized by State legislatures will soon be introduced into Congress, it was announced after the meeting with the President. The highway officials pledged themselves to campaign for maintenance of roads built with such funds. The President was emphatic upon this point in his message to Congress.

The delegation calling at the White House was headed by Secretary of Agriculture Wallace and T. H. MacDonald, chief of the Bureau of Public Roads.

## Mail Thefts Enormous.

Mail robberies throughout the Middle West during the past ten months have yielded bandits' loot valued at 6,801,750, according to statistics made public by postoffice authorities. Many of these robberies have been solved and the participants brought to justice. Among these are the \$3,500,000 hold-up near Omaha, Neb., recently, and the \$212,000 mail robbery at Mount Vernon, Ill., about two months ago.

## Adopting a Foreign Policy.

THE Department of State has adopted a definite foreign policy, which was clearly outlined in the message to Congress of President Harding Tuesday.

While the President recommended the adoption of a resolution by Congress to terminate the technical state of war with Germany, it was learned that this is merely to remove certain restrictions on business within the United States and to permit the resumption of trade with Germany.

This resolution is in no sense of the word to affect the status of the United States with the allies, or to be considered as surrendering any of the rights acquired by this country as one of the major participants in the war. On the contrary the State Department is expected to shortly open negotiations with the allies looking to an adoption by this country of the treaty of Versailles stripped of the league of nations covenant. A conference of Secretary of State Hughes with the allied premiers probably will be called with this end in view.

## Soviet Refuses Deportees.

FORTY radicals slated for deportation from the United States are being held at New York because the Latvian consul has refused to give a permit to transport them across Latvia to the borders of Soviet Russia. This official's stand is taken in turn, on account of a ruling by the Soviet government that such deportees are not to be admitted to the former territory of the Czar.

A group of more than eighty deportees who sailed from New York several weeks ago are at Libau, the port at which the latest contingent was to debark, unable to proceed because of the same restriction. They may be returned to jails in the United States if it is found impossible to get them into Russia.

State Department officials describe an "obvious animus" in the Soviet ukase, following as it does the deportation of Ludwig C. A. K. Martens, "Soviet Ambassador to the United States" and Secretary Hughes' statement anent trade with the present Russian government.

There remain about 120 cases of deportation awaiting action by the Bureau of Immigration, the Department of Labor announces, approximately 600 radicals of all nationalities having been shipped from this country since the Buford, the "Soviet Ark," sailed with 249 December 21, 1919.

The State Department has again notified the Republic of Panama that this government will insist on the acceptance by Panama of the White boundary award in the dispute with Costa Rica over the Coto province. Following the occupation of Coto by Costa Rican troops and their eviction by Panama, Costa Rica accepted the demand of the United States to abide by the White award. Panama insists that the award is unfair and refuses to accept it. A note to this effect was received from Panama Tuesday and a reply promptly dispatched by Secretary Hughes.

## English Claims Disputed.

The claim of the British government that concessions in Mesopotamia were secured prior to the adoption of the Versailles treaty and may not be affected by the award of mandates, will be disputed by the State Department it was learned Tuesday. The United States claims to have evidence to show that the rights in the oil fields were not acquired until after the adoption of the treaty and will claim equal rights with the British for American oil interests.

The State Department has materially aided American importers in securing goods bought in the sections of Germany that are not occupied by the allies. The Inter-Allied Rhineland High Commission advised the State Department Tuesday that material moving through the occupied zone from unoccupied areas would be exempt from duty except the customs imposed by Germany. American importers had feared that a second duty would be imposed by the allies.

## Shifting Steamship Lanes.

The Secretary of the Navy has directed the branch hydrographic officer in New York to have the different steamship companies appoint a committee to act for them in changing the east and west tracks across the Atlantic in accordance with recommendations of the Hydrographic Office.

Navigation in the present lanes leaves the ships unduly exposed to ice, the Secretary said, but a new danger would be encountered unless all of the lines accepted the new routes. Failure of all companies to adopt the same course would have east and westbound ships in the same area and increase the probability of collisions.